



MIDNIGHT
CELLARS

2021 ESTATE MERLOT

WILLOW CREEK DISTRICT
PASO ROBLES
CALIFORNIA

TASTING NOTES

A deep ruby red hue hints at the richness within. The nose is layered with earthy minerality, evoking a walk through a sun-warmed vineyard after the rain. On the palate, luscious ripe plum and blackberry take center stage, complemented by a whisper of vanilla that rounds out the bold structure. Firm tannins provide a robust backbone, making this a wine built for longevity. The finish is long and lingering, with a subtle interplay of dark fruit and savory depth. Perfectly suited for hearty fare - think braised short ribs, wild game, or a rich mushroom risotto. Enjoy now or cellar through 2032 for even greater complexity.

WINEMAKER	Rich Hartenberger
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Merlot
COOPERAGE	75% neutral French oak 25% new French oak
AGING	36 months
pH/TA	3.46 / 7.30g/L
RESIDUAL SUGAR	0.8 g/L
ABV	14.9%
PRODUCTION	458 cases

VINTAGE NOTES

Midnight Cellars experienced a generous amount of pre-season rainfall for its estate vineyards in 2021. Much of this rain arrived in a single, powerful storm in late October, sending both the vineyard and production teams into overdrive for a brief but critical period. While the harvest required a fast-paced effort to bring in the fruit at peak ripeness, all other aspects of the 2021 vintage proceeded smoothly. The result was exceptional yields and outstanding quality fruit. The Midnight Cellars Winemaking team believe this vintage showcase remarkable depth of flavor and balanced acidity - making for a beautifully structured and expressive vintage.

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ROOTED IN PASO ROBLES SINCE 1995